

# Twelve River RIPPLES

## Bagatelle



### Why not try a **Golden Shovel Poem**?

The Golden Shovel Poem is a new form devised by Terrance Hayes (b.1971) in homage to fellow American poet Gwendolyn Brooks (1917-2000)

[poetryfoundation.org/poetrymagazine/articles/92023/introduction-586e948ad9af8](https://poetryfoundation.org/poetrymagazine/articles/92023/introduction-586e948ad9af8)

Here is an example taken from

[ypn.poetrysociety.org.uk/workshop/what-is-a-golden-shovel-with-peter-kahn/](https://ypn.poetrysociety.org.uk/workshop/what-is-a-golden-shovel-with-peter-kahn/):

‘The Artist’ by Raymond Antrobus  
a Golden Shovel after Gwendolyn Brooks’ ‘Gay Chaps at the Bar’

There are good reasons to tweezer **each**  
word that you give a **body**  
to pronounce your stance on what **has**  
carried your cells with **its**  
language of what you might call living for **art**.

In this poem, Raymond Antrobus uses the line ‘each body has its art’ from Brooks’ poem ‘Gay Chaps at the Bar’ as the final words in each of his lines.

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You could also adapt the form to use a line by another poet, a line from song lyrics, a proverb etc. etc. Over to you ...